

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 remain pending in the application.

Applicant notes the Examiner's request for certified copy of Application No. PCT/FR02/00938. Applicant will correct the claim for priority to be based on the PCT under 35 U.S.C. 371 rather than the French priority within the pendency of this Application.

Applicant appreciatively note that claims 4-7, 11-12 and 14-17 are objected to as being dependent for a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant requests this be held in abeyance pending allowance of independent claim 1.

The abstract of the disclosure was objected to as containing more than 150 words. In response, a new abstract is being submitted herewith, and accordingly this objection should be withdrawn.

The specification has been amended to conform with the guidelines for the arrangement the specification.

The disclosure was objected to because the noted informalities. In response, the specification has been amended in accordance with the examiner's helpful suggestions and accordingly this objection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 17 are objected to because the noted informalities. In response, claim 1 has been amended in accordance with the examiner's helpful suggestion. Claim 17 has been amended to eliminate the wording which the Examiner objected to. Accordingly, these objections should be withdrawn.

Claims 8 and 13-17 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In response, these claims have been amended, and accordingly this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, 3, 8, 9 and 13 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Eck et al. (2001/0016057)). In response, claim 1 has been amended and is believed to be patentable over Eck et al. for the reasons discussed below.

The claims have been modified to bring clarification to the claimed invention. Once significant feature of the invention is the fact that when an abnormal divergence is found between a signal level value from a point on one side of the border between zone 1 and zone 2 and signal levels from a corresponding point on the other side of the border, the content of the correction table will be corrected not only for this specific level value where an abnormal divergence has been found but also for several surrounding signal level values.

This is not suggested by Eck. In Eck, when a divergence is found for a particular level, say level GW6f5 in fig 8, then this level is corrected. The table remains non corrected for levels which are not found abnormal, and thereafter, the non-corrected zones of the table may be completed by interpolation between values present in zones which do have correction values. In the present invention, correction is made at once for several other levels than the level which is found to show an abnormal difference. Possibly, as claimed in claim 15, a correction value is even made for all values of the table; then the correction preferable decreases for level values which are far below the level value which was found to give rise to an abnormality.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims as amended are patentable over the cited prior art. Accordingly, the anticipation rejection should be withdrawn.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application should be in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

LOWE HAUPTMAN HAM & BERNER, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth M. Berner". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kenneth M. Berner
Registration No. 37,093

1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1111
(703) 518-5499 Facsimile
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KMB/mkl